subsidy would depend on various factors like international prices, tariff policy and demand etc.

HPCL Pipeline In Andhra Pradesh

1194. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4368 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15th May, 1997 and state:

(a) whether an in-depth study has been done on the specific representation in question on the pipeline of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that no reply or clarification has been given to the representation;

(c) whether HPCL sought to clarify matters; and

(d) the number and venue of meeting held by HPCL in this regard in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The matter has been reviewed by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to ensure that payment of compensation to all concerned are made strictly as per the provisions of Petroleum & Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of ROU in Land) Act, 1962.

(b) and (c) The issue mentioned in the representation were clarified in a detailed reply to the Member of Parliament, who had forwarded the representation.

(d) So far no direct meeting has been held by HPCL in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. HPCL have since been advised to immediately get in touch with the representationist and provide the necessary clarifications required by him.

Vijayawada-Vishakhapatnam Pipeline

1195. SHRI V. HANUMATHA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited made a consolidated list of all farmers and house holders through whose property the proposed Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam pipeline passes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the compensation paid in financial terms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) HPCL have made a list of all owners of land through which the pipeline passes. The pipeline passes mainly through agricultural land, avoiding permanent structures and household properties. There is no acquisition of land in the case of laying of pipelines. As per the Petroleum & Mineral Pipeline (Acquisition of ROU in Land) Act, 1962, only right of use of land is acquired. After the pipeline is buried under the earth, the land is restored back to the owners, with certain conditions, for normal cultivations, etc.

(c) The payment of compensation is made to the Competent Authority as per the provisions of the law. HPCL has already deposited an amount of Rs.23,78,941/—with the Competent Authority for this purpose for lands in Vizag and West Godavari Districts. The Competent Authority has so far disbursted an amount of Rs.5,85,474/—to the farmers.

Governments Decision to Share Profits with Oil Companies

1196. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give its share of profits to oil companies from the oil field and exploration blocks which were given to the private sector in 1994; and